

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 01646 030145Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 HA-05 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7442
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 1646

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS:SHUM, PINS, PINR, ELAB, UR
SUBJECT: KLEBANOV AND DISAFFECTED SOVIETS WORKERS

REF: STATE 023854

1. ASKED ABOUT VLADIMIR KLEBANOV AND "TRADE UNION IN
DEFENSE OF WORKERS," TWOMEMBERS OF PSYCHIATRIC WATCH
COMMITTEE TOLD EMBOFF FEBRUARY 1 THAT KLEBANOV IS A
"VERY STRANGE MAN." WHILE THEY DECLINED TO DESCRIBE HIM
AS MENTALLY ILL, THEY NOTED HE HAD BEEN IN MENTAL
INSTITUTIONS MANY TIMES OVER THE YEARS, MOST RECENTLY
LAST DECEMBER (FOR NINE DAYS).

2. SOME TIME AGO KLEBANOV APPROACHED THE PSYCHIATRIC
WATCH COMMITTEE REGARDING HIS EXPERIENCES IN MENTAL
INSTITUTIONS AND ASKED TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE GROUP.
OUR SOURCES SAID IT QUITE SOON BECAME APPARENT THAT
KLEBANOV WOULD NOT BE A POSITIVE ADDITION TO THE
COMMITTEE BECAUSE "HE WANTED TO BE THE LEADER OF ANY
ORGANIZATION HE JOINED" AND SO WAS GRADUALLY EDGED OUT.
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KLEBANOV SUBSEQUENTLY TOLD OUR SOURCES HE WANTS NO
CONTACTS WITH HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS, AND PREFERS TO
"GO HIS OWN WAY" BECAUSE "TOILERS HAVE THEIR OWN
PROBLEMS."

3. HE CLAIMS A TOTAL FOLLOWING OF SOME 200 WORKERS
AROUND THE SOVIET UNION WHO SEEK REDRESS FOR ALLEGED

VIOLATIONS OF THEIR RIGHT TO WORK. KLEBANOV ALSO CLAIMS TO HAVE ORGANIZED A "WORKING GROUP" ON LABOR AND TRADE UNIONS, BUT IN THE OPINION OF OUR SOURCES HE SPEAKS ONLY FOR HIMSELF.

4. THE SUPPOSED NUMBER TWO MAN IN KLEBANOV'S "WORKING GROUP" IS AN UNEMPLOYED MOSCOW LABORER BY THE NAME OF YANKOV, WHO "IS SLEEPING IN TRAIN STATIONS" FOR LACK OF MOAMEY. YAKOV WAS HIMSELF COMMITTED TO A PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL IN MOSCOW FOR FOURTEEN DAYS IN JANUARY 1978, BUT ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCES WAS RELEASED FOLLOWING WESTERN PUBLICITY OF KLEBANOV "MOVEMENT."

5. WE UNDERSTAND THAT AMONG THE TWENTY OR SO ALLEGED CLOSE FOLLOWERS OF KLEBANOV IS AN ARMENIAN PROFESSOR, BUT FOR THE MOST PART THE PEOPLE RECRUITED BY KLEBANOV ARE UNEDUCATED AND PROBABLY WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO ORGANIZE.
MATLOCK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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